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Resource Center News: Winner of the IWalk Photo Contest

Thank you to everyone who submitted an IWalk photo. And thanks, too, to all who voted for their favorite [International Walk to School Day picture](#)!

With more than **900 votes** cast between November 4th and November 8th, this was a tight race to name the state's winner.

Congratulations to North Springs Elementary, of Columbia, for a fabulous photo capturing your International Walk to School Day event! North Springs Elementary celebrated I-Walk with over two hundred students, parents, and faculty members who met at North Springs Park to Walk TO School. Students who were not able to



Rodney Oldham, CHES, CPT

From our State Coordinator

Now that International Walk to School Day is over, are you looking for ways to keep up the momentum in your SRTS program? Consider organizing a "**Turkey Trot**" walk event in November and use our [monthly flyers](#) to help spread the word at your school!

November is also American Diabetes Month, and hosting a [School Walk for Diabetes](#) would be a good way to educate students about the

participate in the Walk To School Event, were encouraged to walk during their related arts classes. Congratulations to North Springs Elementary for a successful event and picture! [Click here](#) to see North Spring's photo on our Facebook page!

1st Place: North Springs Elementary, Columbia with 223 votes

2nd Place: Belton Elementary, Belton with 201 Votes

3rd Place: Jesse Boyd Elementary, Spartanburg with 116 votes

*All votes sent via e-mail were counted once per individual.

National Spotlight on SC Safe Routes to School: SC Results and Rankings

Way to go, South Carolina, for taking part in this year's International Walk to School Day (IWalk)! The numbers are in, and we had 277 events registered, a 33% increase over last year. We are among the top three states in the country with the most events and #2 in overall increase in schools participating in IWalk from last year. For the second year in a row, **SC is #1** in participation rate according to the National Center for Safe Routes to School! South Carolina had 25% of all elementary/middle schools in the state participating in IWalk. Each walker, roller, parent, administrator, and teacher who took part in an event contributed to South Carolina's IWalk success. Click here to [see a list of schools](#) that participated and helped to make this a statewide success!

Partner Highlight: Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies

Congratulations to the following schools for their recent walking and bicycling improvements!
Augusta Circle Elementary, Greenville

importance of making healthy choices and preventing diabetes.

Contact your [School Outreach Coordinator](#) for assistance planning one of these events!

Highlight on a Friend: American Diabetes Association

Every November, the [American Diabetes Association](#) (ADA) launches American Diabetes Month. ADA is leading the fight to stop diabetes by educating the public on its deadly consequences and offering guidance on how to help the nearly 26 million children and adults in the United States who are living with the disease. In South Carolina, the ADA is hosting the [2014 S.C. Tour De Cure](#) in Columbia, on Saturday, May 3rd. Learn about other nationwide events in support of American Diabetes Month by clicking [here](#).

The ADA also offers an educational school fundraising program to promote healthy living, school spirit, and community involvement. Learn more about [School Walk for Diabetes](#) [here](#).

The [SRTS Resource](#)

**Fountain Inn Elementary, Fountain Inn
Inman Elementary, Inman
Inman Intermediate, Inman
Pine Street Elementary, Spartanburg**

These five schools celebrated the completion of new SRTS infrastructure projects with ribbon cutting ceremonies. School staff, community members, elected officials, families, and students were on hand to help commemorate the advances in pedestrian and bicycling connectivity. These schools are recipients of the [Safe Routes to School Infrastructure funding](#) administered by the South Carolina Department of Transportation's (SCDOT) Safe Routes to School Program.

Thank you SCDOT for helping turn these projects into a reality! **Click here to view a [photo album](#) of the ribbon cutting ceremonies.**



Grant Opportunity: Find Your Balance Challenge

Teachers, apply for the Energy Balance Grant at <http://www.togethercounts.com/at-school/win-for-your-school/balance-challenge>. The application requires a teacher/mentor to write a goal

Center is currently accepting nominations for ["Outstanding Friends"](#) in the community! Nominate your organization today that is working hard to implement **Safe Routes to School in a community, school, or state level. Click [here](#) for the ["Outstanding Friend Nomination"](#) form.**

Not a Silver Level Partner Yet?

Due to the success of so many schools participating in Walk to School Day events in South Carolina each year, the Resource Center will only be able to provide unique incentives such as the very popular glow in the dark silicone bracelets to **[Silver and Gold Level Partners](#)** starting Fall 2013! Bronze level schools will no longer receive these types of incentives, but they will receive other incentives for participating in Walk and Bike to School Day events.

Click [here](#) to see the requirements to become at least a Silver Level Partner! There is still plenty of time to achieve Silver status before South Carolina Walk to School Day on March 5th, 2014. Please contact your **[School Outreach Coordinator](#)** for assistance.

statement and action plan on how students can make long-term improvements in nutrition and physical activity at your school. The top prize is a \$30,000 grant for working toward energy balance goals! Also, the teacher/mentor could win the top prize of a stay at a Wyndham resort.

Like us on 

Keep up with the Resource Center this school year by liking us on [Facebook](#)!

"[Like](#)" us to stay updated on interesting news articles, upcoming events and different funding and learning opportunities!



The SC Safe Routes to School Resource Center is a program of the South Carolina DOT

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